

OUR HOME INTERESTS.

The Cumberland Foundry.

In the year 1807, Messrs. Clark, Qualie & Co. built the Cumberland Foundry, which has become such an important adjunct to the various influences which have conspired to push forward the growth and prosperity of our city. The firm was then composed of Harvey Clark, J. A. Qualie and Charles W. De Pue. Messrs. Clark and Qualie had previously been connected with the establishment of North & Qualie, opened here soon after the war, and being men of observation, we have no doubt their experience of what the public wants required was what led them to open the Cumberland Foundry, which has proved so successful. About a year ago, they associated with them Messrs. C. E. Thurber and J. B. Kelly, of Providence, R. I., and J. B. Hoxie, of this city, whose capital, business energy and practical experience have proven a most valuable addition to the general working capacity of the firm.

Mr. Qualie is at home in the foundry and pattern shop; Mr. Thurber is a practical machinist; Mr. Kelly understands all about the furnace; Mr. Clark's general business qualifications render him the very man to manage office work, while Messrs. Hoxie & De Pue are left to sell the goods, and fill their place admirably.

The firm organized for the special purpose of manufacturing car wheels, in which specialty their business has proved a decided success. Soon after commencing, their attention was directed to the celebrated Carter Furnace property, situated in Carter county, Tennessee, where they are manufacturing charcoal cold-blast iron, which, for making wheels, is equal to anything in the United States, the Salsbury and Sterling iron not excepted. This iron has been known in East Tennessee for the past fifty years for its extraordinary good quality, and is the same as was used by Messrs. Shepard and Maxwell here before the war, and which has been so thoroughly tested by railroad men in the South. Practical men who have tried them, say their wheels will do double the service of any other wheel that comes on the roads. During the war, almost every wheel foundry in the United States was represented under the Government care, so there was a good opportunity to try the merits of the various wheels.

The wheels from the Cumberland Foundry are now in use on the following roads: Western and Atlantic, Selma, Rome and Dalton, Alabama and Chattanooga, Memphis and Charleston, Nashville and Chattanooga, Mississippi and Tennessee, East Tennessee, Virginia and Georgia, Knoxville and Kentucky, and Knoxville and Charleston, and in every instance they have given the most perfect satisfaction.

The capacity of their cupola for melting the iron for car wheels, is about ten tons per day. They are prepared to turn about thirty car wheels every day, and we have no doubt could increase considerably on that, if it became necessary. Thirty car wheels are worth about \$450. This will give some idea of what the establishment is worth to the community. The entire value of the wheels is the product of East Tennessee. The iron, as we before stated, being dug out of the mountains of Carter county, melted with Carter county charcoal, transported to this place and moulded into wheels. They have an advantage over Pennsylvania manufacturers, in the matter of cold-blast charcoal iron, which has become very scarce there in consequence of the timber all being cut off in the iron regions. Thus, while a good quality of anthracite iron may be bought there for \$200 per ton, good charcoal iron commands from \$250 to \$300. This gives East Tennessee an advantage which she will have for years to come. While the iron ore is inexhaustible, it is surrounded by dense forests of timber, suitable for burning into charcoal, and gives Knoxville and East Tennessee a vast importance in the iron world, which, though now in its infancy, must ultimately attract the attention of the whole country. There are only about three furnaces in Great Britain, now in operation, which manufacture charcoal iron. These enterprising gentlemen had an eye to this, no doubt, when they leased the Carter county furnaces, and put them in operation.

In addition to their car wheel department here, they also have a cupola for their soft iron department, with a capacity of six tons per day, which is constantly employed. They do an extensive business in the manufacture of stoves, stove ware, hollow ware, grates, saw mills and other machinery—also the castings for the celebrated Jeff plow. They do not claim the superiority in this department which they do for their car wheels, yet their castings are not excelled by any manufactory in the South, for either beauty of finish or durability.

They employ about thirty-five hands at the foundry. Their pay roll will reach about \$1,200 per month. They employ at the furnace including miners, colliers, &c., about one hundred hands. The people of that locality have a high appreciation of the benefits they are deriving from the concern, and its suspension would be a calamity to them. Their furnace has a capacity of about ten tons per day, and the iron they produce will sell for as much in the markets as any manufactured in the United States. We can well afford to encourage all such enterprises as this. We ought to purchase their products whenever we use anything they produce, especially when they are of so superior a quality.

A Small Thief.

The Bristol News thus gets after a rogue: "The low specimen of mortality who, on Tuesday night last, sneaked into the house of God, at the corner of Cumberland and Moore streets, and stole the saws and hatchets used for erecting the stage, is unworthy of the notoriety usually accorded to infamy."

AN ERRING SCION.

The Best Detectives in the World Looking for the young Earl of Aberdeen.

[Cincinnati Commercial N. Y. Special, 14th.]

Two years ago the following advertisement appeared in every newspaper in the country:

"I am well, but we are in affliction, and I long for you that we may comfort one another. There is a letter to Dad at the post-office, New York."

It was continued for nearly six months, exciting universal curiosity and comment. It was followed by a second, as follows:

"Margaret—I have been seriously ill; getting better, but very weak. Come if you possibly can immediately, for you are more needed than you can think."

These advertisements, it is now ascertained, were inserted, in order, if possible, to find the Earl of Aberdeen, a young man who left his wealth, title and honors, in 1860, when but twenty-five years of age, to follow the sea as a common sailor. The Earl of Aberdeen is one of the oldest Scotch titles, originating in the seventeenth century. The first Earl was Lord High Chancellor of Scotland. The father of the young man was at the head of the famous Aberdeen Ministry during the Crimean war. He was invested with the right to a seat in the House of Lords, under the title of Viscount Gordon of Aberdeen, by royal decree, in 1814. The estate is estimated to yield an income of \$40,000 per annum. The young Earl came to this country and shipped as a common sailor on trading vessels on the Atlantic coast. February 6, 1867, he was made a mate by certificate from the American Shipmasters' Association, under the name of George Henry F. Osborne. On the 27th of November, 1868, he was granted a master's certificate, and was in command of the schooner Walter, of Richmond, Maine. In January, 1870, he shipped as mate on the three-masted schooner Hebra, bound from Boston to Melbourne, Australia, and thence to China. On the 6th day out he was washed overboard and drowned. During the first two years of his absence he remained in correspondence with his relatives, but kept his employment a secret.

A little more than two years ago his next younger brother and heir presumptive died. He then ceased writing home. This fact explains the "Dad" advertisement—that being his pet name. As it and the subsequent advertisements failed to find him, the matter was put in legal hands, and the ablest detectives of England and America have since been in search of him. They had succeeded in merely striking the trail at the time of his shipwreck on the Hebra some months ago. Having become convinced of his death, a commission was sent out from the English Court of Chancery to gather proof with a view to the succession of the title and estate. That commission is still pursuing its duties, and is now in Boston at work. It has obtained photographs of the seaman Osborne, together with specimens of his handwriting, which fully identify him as the missing Earl. The ship Hebra has been chartered to proceed to England, with her ship's company the same as at the time of Osborne's death, to give evidence of his death. There seems to be no doubt of his death, and that the Hon. John Campbell Hamilton Gordon, the youngest and only surviving brother, succeeds to one of the oldest titles and wealthiest estates in Scotland.

The revenue of the estate, which has accumulated during the Earl's absence, alone amounts to nearly a million of dollars. The Earl had refrained from drawing a single farthing during all his wanderings, but on the contrary had accumulated a fund from his earnings which was deposited in savings banks here and in Boston. It is supposed that it was his intention, when able to purchase a ship, and sail back to Aberdeen on his own quarter-deck, the product of his own industry.

Temperance Meeting.

CLINTON, TENN., Dec. 24.

Editors CHRONICLE: At a meeting of "Lights of Temperance," at this place on Wednesday night, at the Baptist church, it being the occasion of a temperance lecture by Rev. Mr. Breaker, of Knoxville, Rev. R. O. Ayres was called to the chair and Will F. Dowell requested to act as Secretary.

Rev. D. M. Breaker, painted in glowing colors the great and increasing evils of intemperance, and in an able and eloquent address of an hour's length, and demonstrated the necessity of sudden and decisive action on the part of Tennessee men.

He was followed by Rev. Mr. Boyington, who not less enthusiastically and eloquently appealed to the common sense and nobler nature of his audience to array themselves in the "temperance army."

Short, but well timed and forcible addresses were made by Rev. C. L. Bowling and Hon. L. C. Houk, in which the latter gentleman returned in a touching manner, his thanks to those who have nobly encouraged him in a strict adherence to his pledge, and thus averted the drunkard's fate.

Whereas, We assembled together for the purpose of a Temperance organization, and recognizing the great evils of intemperance, and the imperative necessity for some remedy; and whereas, in our opinion, he who manfully stems the tide of popular opinion, and avails himself of the strongest opposition, arranges himself in the ranks of Temperance, deserves the everlasting gratitude of all good and true men.

And whereas, We have just listened to the able and interesting addresses of Revs. Mr. Breaker and Mr. Boyington, in this behalf; and, therefore, be it resolved, that the thanks of this Society be and they are hereby extended to said gentlemen for their masterly advocacy of the principles of Bible Temperance.

Resolved, That the "Lights of Temperance" hereby request the presence of the above named gentlemen at their meetings at any time their convenience will permit, and especially on New Year's eve, to a supper at the Court House.

Resolved, That the Secretary of this meeting furnish Dr. Breaker and Mr. Boyington a copy of these resolutions, and transmit a copy to the Knoxville CHRONICLE for publication.

R. O. AYRES, Chairman.
WILL F. DOWELL, Secretary.

MISCELLANY.

THE ECLIPSE IN ENGLAND.

French Army Movements and Victories.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The most satisfactory eclipse observations have been taken throughout England.

CHERBOURG, Dec. 22.—One thousand men, fully equipped, left for the field today.

Arms and equipments are arriving in large quantities.

The blockade of Harfleur has been ordered.

BORDEAUX, Dec. 23.—During the great sortie from Paris on Wednesday, Ducrot took several hundred prisoners.

The general situation is more encouraging for the French.

The non-occupation of Tours, and the retreat of the other Prussian forces towards Orleans, is said to be the result of the strategical movements of Chausey and Bourbaki.

Bouen has been almost entirely evacuated by the Prussians. There were only 1,500 German soldiers there yesterday.

Manteuffel undoubtedly moved his forces for the purpose of opposing the march of the French army of Gen. Faldherber.

BORDEAUX, Dec. 24.—In an official dispatch from Lille last night, Gen. Faldherber announces to the Minister of War that his army engaged the enemy at Pont Noyelle on that day. The battle lasted from eleven in the forenoon until six in the evening. For the greater portion of the time it was an artillery duel, which finally terminated by a charge of the French infantry along the whole line. The enemy were driven back, and the French troops remained masters of the field.

Advices from Paris of the 22d, received by a balloon which landed near Nuits, say there was no engagement that day, but a general battle was regarded as imminent.

The journals estimate the losses of the French in the combats of the 21st at about 800 killed and wounded, and speak in glowing terms of the great confidence and ardor displayed by the National Guard.

BERLIN, Dec. 24.—Bismarck's circular to the representatives of North Germany, says that French officers heretofore captured have been breaking their paroles not to fight during the present war, and that the French Government sanctions these proceedings, and that peremptory measures must be taken to check it.

Herr Compauhen announced in the Prussian Chambers that no deficit is probable in the finances of that monarchy for the years 1870 and 1871.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The Prussians have left Dieppe, but are encamped near by in heavy force. Two French ironclads are stationed off the port.

Late advices from Amiens report Manteuffel near that city, where a battle is probable.

BORDEAUX, Dec. 24.—HAYRE is now so strongly fortified that no fears of an attack are entertained. All the works about the city are fully manned, and there are several war vessels anchored before the city.

Cherbourg is also regarded as impregnable to any force the enemy can bring against it. The fortifications on the land side have been completed, and, as at Havre, frigates are stationed in the roads.

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The brigantine ship Fearless, from Wilmington, N. C., collided with the ship Carona, forty miles off Beachy Head. The Fearless was abandoned in a sinking condition.

The Victoria and Lake Michigan, both from Montreal, report frightful weather on their voyage.

The Medora was considerably damaged. It is said that the Government at Paris will send Thiers as its representative to the London Conference.

It is reported also that the French Government has asked the English Government to obtain egress from Paris for its representative.

A dispatch from Brussels says General Faldherber is being surrounded by the Prussians.

The Prussians have occupied Soissons and Sissonne.

Six thousand Saxons have left Saxony to subdue the people of Rhelms, who have risen against the Prussian commanders.

BORDEAUX, Dec. 23.—A balloon has landed near Nuits with Paris dates to the 23d. No fighting had occurred up to last Thursday, though a battle was imminent. The journals estimate the number killed and wounded on the 21st at 800, and speak in glowing terms of the confidence and ardor of the National Guard.

HOME NEWS.

Fires and Cold Weather.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The weather is very cold.

The Aquila Creek boat arrived at 11 o'clock, missing connection North.

The Potomac is frozen over this morning.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 24.—The thermometer here, at 8 o'clock this morning, stood 6° below zero. At Greenbrier White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, to-day, the thermometer stood 6° below zero. Ice four inches thick formed at Staunton.

Private advices from Georgia indicate that the Democrats have carried five with a close race for the remaining two Congressional Districts.

LOUISVILLE, KY., Dec. 24.—The fire which originated in a hotel, left but three Brandenburg houses standing. Loss \$100,000; insurance \$50,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Kuckerford Park Hotel, in New Jersey, was destroyed by fire early this morning. The loss is estimated at \$20,000. About a year ago fire destroyed the same hotel.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Secretary Fish gave a dinner to the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations to-day. Senators Sumner and Morton were present.

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 24.—The thermometer at Lookout Mountain College indicates four degrees below zero. This morning was the coldest since the observations were commenced.

VIRGINIA.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRES AT RICHMOND AND HARRISONBURG.

Great Loss of Life and Property.

RICHMOND, Dec. 21.—The Spotswood Hotel and all the buildings on that block, which were the finest in the city, were burnt at two o'clock this morning. The business houses burned were: Branch & Current's crockery store, Adams Express Company's office, Howe's sewing machine store, and many smaller stores.

The weather was the coldest that has been experienced here for 13 years. The ground was covered with snow. The thermometer was five degrees above zero.

At quarter past 2 o'clock as the porter was waking the passengers for the Southern train, fire was discovered in the basement. An effort was immediately made to wake the guests. The scene is indescribable. Men were rushing about trying to save their baggage. Women half naked and barefooted rushed into the snow-covered streets. The engines were promptly on the spot, but the water being frozen caused a delay. Before the elapse of 20 minutes the flames prevented any escape to be made by the stair cases. The guests commenced jumping from their windows and lowering themselves by blankets and ropes.

P. P. Clark, steward, was fatally injured by jumping from the third story. Mrs. Emily Cornelius with two or three other ladies appeared at a window in the fifth story screaming for help. The firemen's ladders failed to reach them by two stories. While the firemen were endeavoring to lengthen them they disappeared in a black smoke, the room brightening up a few minutes later with flames. Persons known to have been lost up to noon to-day are:

Erasmus Ross, clerk of Libby Prison during the war; Mrs. Emily Cornelius, housekeeper; Samuel W. Robinson, clerk with Euker & Bro., and Samuel Hines, clerk with Millizer & Co., Wilcox, of Lynchburg, and Vaden, of Chesterfield, are safe. Hahnar, of Jackson, Tennessee, is known to be lost, making the 8th victim of the fire still missing, for whom there is little hope.

James River is frozen over. The register of the hotel was destroyed. It is impossible to say what strangers are lost.

There are about a dozen unclaimed trunks of parties from New York and other Northern cities.

It is a noticeable fact that the fire left a building on the corner.

A. C. Shafter, State printer, escaped from the fourth story by stepping from window cornice to window cornice, reaching the ground badly burned, but was otherwise unharmed.

A correspondent of the New York Herald narrowly escaped.

The guests lost all their clothing. \$300,000 of the loss was insured, mostly in Northern offices.

The following additional names of persons are known to be lost:

H. A. Thomas, agent of the Panorama of the Pilgrim's Progress; W. H. Pace, Danville, Va., United States Mail Agent, and J. B. Farris, Messenger of the Southern Express Company.

The Spotswood hotel was insured for \$80,000.

Sabbett, Luck & Co., had \$20,000 insurance on furniture, and \$7,000 on wines and carpets.

The National Insurance Company, of Baltimore, losses are \$8,000.

All the goods ready for delivery in the Southern Express office were burned.

A man was seen at an upper window apparently paralyzed, tearing paper into small pieces, which he threw into the streets, until he fell back into the flames and perished.

Among those that made narrow escapes were M. Maillefer, of New York, engineer of the James River obstructions; O. A. Penree, of Columbia S. C., private Secretary of Senator Sprague; and the proprietress of the theatre.

The Delane troupe lost all their baggage. The hotel register has been found. Only six strangers are unaccounted for.

The following are the names of the missing strangers: J. F. Wilcox, Lynchburg, Va.; Nathan Bernstein, Washington; A. Leil, Tampa, Fla.

HARRISONBURG, Dec. 23.—There were a large number of business houses burned this morning between the hours of four and five o'clock. The following were totally destroyed: the First National Bank, the weekly Enterprise office, and the entire square.

The American hotel, on the opposite side of Main street, was considerably damaged.

Mr. Switzer and son were badly hurt. The loss is \$100,000. Insured for about half.

Accidental Deaths.

The Chattanooga Times says a colored man was drowned near that city on Friday evening.

A son of Hon. W. H. Wisener was shot through the breast, in Shelbyville, two days since, by the Express route agent, whose name is Stahlman. It is feared the wound is mortal.

Young Wisener was the attacking party. Politics had nothing whatever to do with the difficulty.

The Greenville Sentinel contains an account of the horrible death of a man in the mountains near that place. He had left his companions and gone up into the mountains, and not returning, his friends set out in search for him. He was found dead, terribly lacerated, and his entrails torn out. A watch was set, and a panther, measuring nine feet, was killed when he returned to feast upon the body of the man that he had killed.

San Domingo.

In the Senate on the 21st, Mr. Sumner rose to a personal explanation:

MR. SUMNER'S EXPLANATIONS.

Mr. Sumner obtaining unanimous consent of the Senate to make a personal statement forwarded to the Secretary and had read portions of an article in the morning's issue of the Daily Patriot, Washington, headed, "Efforts to bring about a reconciliation between the President and Mr. Sumner." The article stated that attempts had been made within the last ten days by mutual friends to bring about a reconciliation or at least a better understanding between the President and Mr. Sumner, and that for consultation the President was approached on the subject by a prominent New England Senator. It then proceeded:

"The President manifested a good deal of feeling, and utterly refused to be persuaded that the differences could be reconciled, or even to give his consent to any movement having in view a reconciliation."

The good of the party was earnestly urged, but in vain. The President, in response to all suggestions of Let us have peace," replied, curiously, that Mr. Sumner had attacked him in the executive sessions severely; that he had spoken bitterly of him publicly—in the street cars and on public conveyances—and that he had grossly abused him in Boston and during his recent journey West. The President added that on some of these occasions Mr. Sumner had attributed dishonest motives to him, and if he were not President of the United States he should hold Mr. Sumner personally responsible for the language and demand satisfaction. This somewhat startling talk from a man whom the Republicans have almost worshipped as the conqueror of the rebellion put peace-makers to flight, for it was plain that the olive branch would not be accepted on any terms. The staff officers about the President share his feelings in this matter, and one of them, General Babcock, is reported to have gone so far as to declare that if he were not officially connected with the Executive he would subject Mr. Sumner to personal violence. This whole matter creates a great deal of talk among those who have been aware of its extent and nature."

Mr. Sumner then said, if there were any reason to believe that this statement would be confined to the newspaper in which I find it, I do not know that I should call attention to it; but I was apprised last evening that a statement of this character would be made by telegraph, and was asked to give some sanction to it. I replied at once that nobody would have authority from me, nor would I say a word on the subject to anybody, and last evening and the evening before I was approached in the same way, and each time gave the same answer. I now find the statement published, and, as I have reason to believe that it is already communicated extensively over the country, I deem it my duty, as far as I am concerned, to set the statement right.

In the first place, there are allegations that Mr. Sumner attacked the President in Executive Sessions of the Senate. I appeal to my associates in the chamber, one and all. I appeal to my friend from Indiana, [Mr. Morton], and ask him to say to the President simply what he said to me personally yesterday with regard to this allegation. I have never alluded to the President in executive session, except in the most respectful kindness, and I challenge anybody to say the contrary. I have criticised the acts of his administration. As a Senator I was obliged to do it. So much for that.

Then come generalities, which I will not allude to, simply on account of their vagueness.

I proceed to the next point of reading: "The President added that on some of these occasions Mr. Sumner had attributed dishonest motives to him." Never, I challenge every citizen of the Republic, from one end of the country to the other, wherever I may have been. I challenge every Senator to testify on that point. I know too well his position and my own to make any such imputation.

Then, as to what I have said about the President. Going back again to his allegation which is so vague, I have summoned one witness, the Senator from Indiana, Mr. Morton. I now summon two others, and I hope, my voice may reach those wherever they may be. One is the Secretary of State and the other the Secretary of the Treasury, both members of the Cabinet. And I have this to say, I have said and written to the Secretary of State words about the past and his acts as strong at least as any I have ever expressed in the most private intercourse. I am inclined to think stronger. I have said in public, in the presence of the Secretary of the Treasury, hard things, and he knows whether they could, in any way, justify the imputation. I do not seek in any way to involve those distinguished friends, but I summon them as witnesses. Let them tell the President what I have said of him.

LOOK TO THE WINTER WHEAT. It is rare to find a field of winter wheat on which there are not low spots where the water lies on the surface. Much might have been done to prevent this by "furrowing out" as soon as the grain was sown. Now it must be done with the hoe and spade. Some wheat may be destroyed by the operation, but one-tenth of what will be "winter killed" if the water is allowed to remain on the land. Let not a moment be lost in attending to this matter. It is by no means a substitute for underdraining, but it is far better than nothing. If the land is low, commence to dig where there is an outlet and make the water follow you up into the land. You will be astonished to find how much fall there is, even on land that apparently on a dead level. Try it and you will save wheat enough to buy a first-class agricultural library.

It is again reported that Ducrot left Paris in a balloon on the 17th, to take command of an army corps in the field.